

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICATION NO.: 10/003,471                      ART UNIT: 3622  
FILING DATE: March 16, 2005                      EXAMINER: Jean Janvier  
APPLICANT: Matthew W. Hickey, James H. Wolfston and Raymond L. Price  
TITLE: Scholarship Award Method Using Voting (As amended)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**EXAMINER INTERVIEW SUMMARY**

Applicants thank the Examiner for courtesies rendered during the November 13, 2007 personal interview. Present in the interview were Examiner Jean D. Janvier; inventor and President of the CollegeNET, the assignee, James H. Wolfston, Jr.; and applicants' representative Michael O. Scheinberg.

Applicants showed and discussed a printout of a power point presentation related to the Hoy-Tarter Shared Decision Making Model by Professor Wayne K. Hoy of Ohio State University, along with a CV of Professor Hoy. The power point presentation describes a model

**CERTIFICATE OF EFS – WEB TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

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On: March 5, 2008

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of decision-making in higher education. Applicants pointed out that the decision-making model would indicate that the scholarship grant decision should not be delegated to students and the internet public, but should remain with trusted university officials who have the required expertise. Applicants also presented articles showing litigation related to scholarships. Those articles show the risks inherent in scholarship grant decisions, which risks speak against delegating the decision away from the expertise in the university to students and the general internet public.

Claim 15 was discussed in relation to U.S. Pat. No. 7,062,462 to Ireland, political elections, and other applications of voting. Applicants argued that while voting is appropriate for decision making in many contexts, delegating the scholarship grant decision outside of a university to students and the internet public is contrary to the conventional wisdom of how to award scholarships.

Applicants agreed to draft a new independent claim and file an RCE.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 5, 2008

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